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09/493,083	01/28/2000	Takuya Kakehashi	862.C1807	1764

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EXAMINER

TRAN, QUOC A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/493,083

Applicant(s)

KAKEHASHI, TAKUYA

Examiner

Quoc A. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to communications: RCE filed 09/09/2004 and amendment filed on 07/19/2004, to the original application filed 01/28/2000.
2. Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 1, 6, and 11 are independent claims.

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

3. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09/09/2004 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1-4, 6- 9, 11-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Wright, Jr. US Patent 5,704,029 – filed 05/23/1997 (hereinafter '029), in view of Scharmer, US Patent 5,640,577 – filed 08/22/1995 (hereinafter '577).**

**In regard to independent claim 1, “a component form data generation step, of generating component form data including a plurality of field attribute data, each field attribute data defining an attribute of the field data, wherein a page of the composite form data comprises a plurality of component form data”, as taught by '029 at col. 9, lines 35-45 (i.e... FIGS. 2a, 2b and 2c the field description records or form descriptors generated by the steps below are illustrated in a composite diagram. The comment card 140 (FIG. 2a) is a diagrammatic paper representation shown as a composite of the individual display screens for each field of the form...);**

**“a form data storing step, of storing composite form data in a form data storage means, the composite form data containing a plurality of the component form data generated in said component form data generation step in a predetermined order in one Page”, as taught by '029 at col. 7, lines 30-35 (i.e... After the user completes a particular form, the collected data, stored in a form data array...);**

**“a field list display step, of displaying each field attribute data of the plurality of component form data, which is contained in a page of interest of the composite form data stored in the form data storage means, with each serial number as a list”, as taught by '029 at col. 9, lines 5-25 (i.e... Forms are created as a series of numbered fields which are navigated by field scripts. Field types include common survey response**

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structures, as well as text and numeric fields for open-ended entry...). Examiner reads, "numeric fields for open-ended entry", which could be interpreted as the claimed "*serial number as a list*";

"((c) *displaying the field attribute data contained in the component form data of interest and the serial number incremented in step (b)*", however as taught by '029 at col. 8, lines 10-15 (i.e.... Visually, forms appear on the screen of the PC 102 as a window made up of a list of fields. Within the current form, users may add new fields, edit fields, or remove fields...), also as taught by '029 at col. 9, lines 10-25 (i.e.... Forms are created as a series of numbered fields, which are navigated by field scripts... Next and Go to may be utilized by the forms engine outside of the script, i.e., sequence control statements do not have to be part of the script. Other embodiments may not even use scripts...);

'029 does not explicitly teach, "(a) *loading, as component form data of interest, one of the component form data contained in the composite form data of one page in the predetermined order*", however as taught by '577 at col. 2, lines 5-37 (i.e.... The data processing system with automated forms generation of the present invention is also responsive to at least a second data processing data function selector, for initiating a second applications program accessing a second database in response to data displayed at a predetermined data terminal screen coordinate position in a form, and for retrieving either the first previously save and partially completed form, or a second predetermined and predefined form...).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified '577 into '029 to provide a way, wherein loading, as component form data of interest, one of the component form data contained in the composite form data of one page in the predetermined order. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination to provide the advantages of preventing: time lost of searching for files, in completed forms not save in the file system, lack of simultaneous operator terminal access, when an operation relies heavily in forms and letters to be filled out, as taught by '577 at col. 1, lines 10-50 (i.e... an operation relies heavily on forms and letters and in some cases, up to several dozen forms may have to be filled out...).

**In regard to dependent claim 2,** *"wherein attributes of the fields uniquely ordered in the page of interest are displayed as a list. Uniquely corresponding to the unique order in the page of interest"*, as taught by '029 at col. 9, lines 10-25 (i.e... Forms are created as a series of numbered fields, which are navigated by field scripts.... Scripts can provide... field navigation... sequence control statements, such as Next and Goto...).

**In regard to dependent claim 3,** *" a component form contained in the list is edited during display of the list, the fields in the page of interest are reordered on the basis of the edited component form, and the list is displayed again"*, as taught by '577 at col. 2, lines 22-26 (i.e... The operator terminal further displays on the data terminal display screen at least one computer session which includes the display of a plurality of

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data fields displayed at a corresponding plurality of predetermined data terminal display screen coordinate positions.....) .

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified '577 into '029 to provide a way, wherein a component form contained in the list is edited during display of the list, the fields in the page of interest are reordered on the basis of the edited component form, and the list is displayed again. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination to provide the advantages of preventing: time lost of searching for files, in completed forms not save in the file system, lack of simultaneous operator terminal access, when an operation relies heavily in forms and letters to be filled out, as taught by '577 at col. 1, lines 10-50 (i.e... an operation relies heavily on forms and letters and in some cases, up to several dozen forms may have to be filled out...).

**In regard to dependent claim 4, “ when a desired field is selected from the list and an attribute of the selected field is designated, a component form having the selected field is displayed as an editing target”**, as taught by '577 at.col.2, lines 32-36 (i.e...at least a first one of the data processing function selectors and to at least one datum displayed in a data field at a predetermined data terminal screen coordinate position, for retrieving a predetermined form and displaying the form on the data terminal screen of the operator terminal.....) .

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified '577 into '029 to provide a way, wherein a desired field is selected from the list and an attribute of the selected field is designated, a

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component form having the selected field is displayed as an editing target. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination to provide the advantages of preventing: time lost of searching for files, in completed forms not save in the file system, lack of simultaneous operator terminal access, when an operation relies heavily in forms and letters to be filled out, as taught by '577 at col. 1, lines 10-50 (i.e... an operation relies heavily on forms and letters and in some cases, up to several dozen forms may have to be filled out...).

**In regard to independent claim 6**, is directed to an apparatus for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**In regard to dependent claims 7 and 12**, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 2, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

**In regard to dependent claims 8 and 13**, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 3, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

**In regard to dependent claims 9 and 14**, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 4, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

**In regard to independent claim 11**, is directed to a computer program product, implementing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**In regard to dependent claim 16**, is directed to a computer-readable storage medium storing computer program product, implementing the method of claim 1 which cited above, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.



4. **Claims 5, 10 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Wright, Jr. US Patent 5,704,029 – filed 05/23/1997 (hereinafter ‘029), in view of Scharmer, US Patent 5,640,577 – filed 08/22/1995 (hereinafter ‘577), further in view of Mayer et al. US Patent 4,451,900 – filed 12/29/1981 (hereinafter ‘900).**

In regard to dependent claim 5, ‘029 and ‘577 do not explicitly teach, “*wherein other component forms contained in the page of interest are displayed to be distinguishable from the component form containing the selected field*”, however as taught by ‘900 at col. 2, line 55 – 62 (i.e...With the alternate embodiment of the present invention, there is no need to switch between alternate display modes: one for displaying true text and the other for displaying the graphic representation. Rather, the graphic representation of a full page of text is displayed at one portion of the display screen; at a second portion of the display screen is displayed a small part of the text...).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified ‘900 into ‘029 and ‘577 to provide a way, wherein other component forms contained in the page of interest are displayed to be distinguishable from the component form containing the selected field. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination to prevent the switch between alternate display modes when the editing is completed, such as: one for displaying true text and the other for displaying the graphic representation. Rather, the graphic representation of a full page of text is displayed at one portion of the display screen; at a second portion of the display screen is displayed a small part of the text.

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Selection of which portion of the representation is made by moving the cursor symbol, which is superimposed on the graphic representation, to the desired location of the representation, as taught by '900 at col.3, lines 21-30 (i.e... there is no need to switch between alternate display modes: one for displaying true text and the other for displaying the graphic representation...). Further more advantages of preventing: time lost of searching for files, in completed forms not save in the file system, lack of simultaneous operator terminal access, when an operation replies heavily in forms and letters to be filled out, as taught by '577 at col. 1, lines 10-50 (i.e... an operation relies heavily on forms and letters and in some cases, up to several dozen forms may have to be filled out...).

**In regard to dependent claims 10 and 15**, incorporate substantially similar subject matter as cited in claim 5, and are similarly rejected along the same rationale.

### ***Response to Argument***

5. Applicant's arguments filed 07/15/2004 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-4103. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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**Quoc A. Tran**

**Patent Examiner**

**Technology Center 2176**

**October 29, 2004**

  
**SANJIV SHAH**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**